

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
13 January 2005 (13.01.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/003874 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G05B 23/02,**
B21B 38/00

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/CA2004/000992

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(22) International Filing Date: 7 July 2004 (07.07.2004)

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2434735 7 July 2003 (07.07.2003) CA

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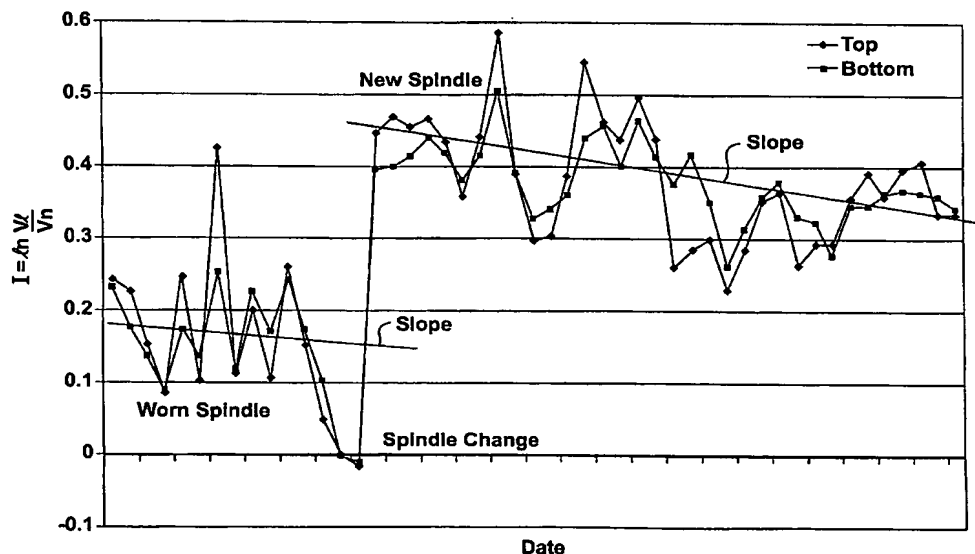
(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: DIAGNOSTIC METHOD FOR PREDICTING MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS IN ROTATING EQUIPMENT



(57) Abstract: This invention is a method to determine the condition of rotating equipment, namely drive spindles, to enable the timely maintenance or replacement of same. The method uses an electrical signal from a vibration sensor mounted on part of the drive train to measure the level of vibration energy when the equipment is rotating under loaded and unloaded conditions. The relative vibration under the loaded and unloaded conditions is used as an indicator of equipment condition. Typically there is more vibration under load when the equipment is in good condition. When the level of vibration under the no-load condition matches or exceeds that seen under load, the equipment needs to be serviced or replaced.

WO 2005/003874 A1



Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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